

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

FRIDAY, 8TH FEBRUARY, 1901.

W. T. BLANFORD, LL.D., F.R.S., etc., President, in the Chair.

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting having been read, the President addressed those present as follows:—

“Before proceeding to the business of the annual meeting, I feel sure that it will be the wish of all present and of all members of our Society that I should express our profound sorrow at the loss which the Empire has sustained in the death of our beloved Sovereign, Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. During her long and glorious reign, seven-eighths of which had passed before the Malacological Society came into existence, every science has flourished in our land, and even the branch of Natural History to which we are devoted has undergone a complete and beneficial transformation through the progress of studies in anatomy, physiology, and evolution. The memory of the great Queen whom we have lost, of all her kindly and gracious acts, of her love for her people, and of the profound attention and reverence with which they regarded her, will live in the hearts of many a generation of our countrymen, and it may be hoped will inspire them with that love of honesty and truth by which she was pre-eminently distinguished, and which is the foundation of all scientific enquiry. Few as are the members of our Society, and small as may be the share we take amongst the vast scientific enterprise of the civilized world, we cannot allow the Queen’s decease to pass unnoticed, nor can we omit to join in the universal expression of grief at the nation’s loss, or in the equally universal feeling of sympathy with her late Majesty’s son and successor, King Edward VII, who we hope will long occupy the throne of his ancestors in peace and prosperity.”

Mr. H. Fulton and Mr. W. M. Webb were appointed scrutineers.

The following report was read:—

“Your Council, in presenting their eighth Annual Report, have once more to record a year of steady progress.

During the past year four members have resigned; while the Society has further to deplore the loss of two of its members by death.¹ Six

¹ Dr. C. C. Claremont and Mr. G. Sherriff Tye, both original members.

members have been removed from the Society's list in accordance with Rule X. The Society has thus lost twelve members, while four new members only have been elected; two candidates awaited election at the close of the year.

The membership of the Society on December 31st stood as follows:—

Ordinary members	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	90
Corresponding members	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	78
							168

the totals for the two preceding years being 176 in 1899, and 168 in 1898.

The finances of the Society are in a flourishing condition. After the payment of all liabilities there is a balance of £37 14s. 6d. in the Treasurer's hands, whilst the sum of £50 still remains invested in Metropolitan 2½ per cent. Stock.

Twenty-four communications have been made to the Society by fifteen authors.

Since the last Annual General Meeting three more numbers of the 'Proceedings' have been issued, forming the first half of Vol. IV, comprising 150 pages, with thirteen plates and numerous illustrations in the text.

Your thanks are due to the following gentlemen, who have borne a proportion of the cost of illustration or who have assisted by furnishing drawings: W. E. Collinge, S. I. Da Costa, Miss J. Donald, Lieut.-Col. H. H. Godwin-Austen, G. K. Gude, J. C. Melvill, R. Murdoch, H. A. Pilsbry, W. B. Randles, E. A. Smith, G. B. Sowerby, E. R. Sykes, and M. F. Woodward.

Further, your thanks are specially due to the Council of the Linnean Society, through whose kindness this Society has been permitted, as in previous years, to hold its meetings in Burlington House."

On the motion of Professor Dr. G. B. Howes, seconded by Mr. R. H. Burne, the foregoing was adopted as the Annual Report of the Society.

The following were elected as Officers and Council for the year 1901:

President.—E. A. Smith, F.Z.S.

Vice-Presidents.—W. T. Blanford, LL.D., F.R.S.; Lieut.-Col. H. H. Godwin-Austen, F.R.S.; Rev. Canon Merle Norman, D.C.L., F.R.S.; E. R. Sykes, B.A., F.L.S.

Treasurer.—J. H. Ponsonby, F.Z.S.

Secretary.—M. F. Woodward.

Editor.—B. B. Woodward, F.L.S.

Six other Members of the Council.—Rev. R. Ashington Bullen, F.L.S.; R. H. Burne, B.A., F.Z.S.; G. C. Crick, F.G.S.; G. K. Gude, F.Z.S.; W. E. Hoyle, M.A., M.R.C.S.; H. Woodward, LL.D., F.R.S.

The retiring President, Dr. Blanford, gave a short address, in which he commented upon the present satisfactory condition of the Society, and gave a brief review of the work done during his term of office.

He regretted that he was unable to give the Society a formal address, and concluded with some interesting remarks upon the geographical distribution of the land mollusca in different parts of the world, a subject which he thought might well occupy the attention of malacologists. He specially pointed out that the systems of division of the earth's surface into zoological areas at present in vogue, notably Selater's, could not be applied to the land mollusca, citing amongst other cases that of Australia, where the northern land mollusca were absolutely distinct from those of the south and indicated a different origin.

On the motion of Mr. S. I. Da Costa, seconded by Mr. H. B. Preston, a vote of thanks was passed to the Retiring Officers, the Retiring Members of Council, the Auditors, and the Scrutineers, Dr. Blanford, the Retiring President, being specially thanked for his valuable services.

ORDINARY MEETING.

FRIDAY, 8TH FEBRUARY, 1901.

E. A. SMITH, F.Z.S., President, in the Chair.

Richard H. Bentley was elected to membership of the Society.

Exhibitions were placed on the table by the following:—

Mr. J. E. S. Moore: a large series of mollusca collected by him during his second visit to Lakes Tanganyika and Nyassa and the Great African Lakes forming the sources of the Nile. He drew special attention to the fact that no traces could be found in Nyassa, Kivu, Albert Edward, Albert, and Victoria Nyanzas of the strange fauna which is so characteristic of Tanganyika. Amongst the exhibits was a supposed new species of *Bythoceras* from Tanganyika, and a new Gastropod from Albert Edward Nyanza. This shell resembles a *Planorbis* in form, but appears to be in reality a *Melania*.

Mr. E. A. Smith: a small box of the so-called Breeding Pearls, presented to him by Mr. H. M. Bernard.

Mr. E. R. Sykes: some rare Volutes (*V. Sophia*), and a large series of *Achatinella* from the Philippines illustrating their extraordinary variation.

Mr. J. E. Cooper: a series of distorted British Lamellibranchs, also the rare *Myrina Simpsoni*, Marshall, from Fisher Bank, east of Orkneys, and *Mangilia rugosa*, Phil., from Achil Island, co. Mayo.

Mr. S. I. Da Costa: a collection of *Aperostoma* from South and Central America.

The Rev. R. Ashington Bullen: a large series of *Cypræa*, showing colour variations; also a series of *Helices*.
